The Balance,

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Hudson,

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1808.

EDITOR's CLOSET.

"Be just, and fear not."

PREFATORY.

THE new arrangements which we are compelled to make, on commencing the present volume of the Balance, somewhat circumscribe our limits. Our field is smaller, but perhaps we can fill it better. If so, our readers will lose nothing by the change. Hereafter we shall not be able to make such copious selections as hitherto; but it will be our aim to give in a compressed form, the "pith and marrow" of all the *original* publications of the times. We shall journalize the intelligence of the day, probably in such a manner as best to please those who have no relish for *long stories*. The last page of each number, will be devoted to literary and miscellaneous matter. It will be reserved for the favors of our correspondents, either in verse of prose; and deficiencies, when any happen, will generally be supplied by selections from new and approved works.

The next President.

While Mr. Jefferson could sell his country's honor, and buy peace with it, he seemed to be perfectly passive under the weight of office; but now that our honor has become too cheap to be valued at any thing in the European market, and peace can no longer be secured, our prudent chief has very wisely resolved to retire. During his administration, he has contrived to pick a quarrel with almost every powerful nation on earth—that is, he has opened accounts with them all; and has now resolved to leave his successor to settle them. Who this successor will be, we have not foresight enough to tell. A faction has already started in favor of old Governor Clinton, and they are not deficient in industry, nor altogether destitute of talents. They are desperate and persevering: But can they hope to succeed against the weight and influence of Virginia? We think not. But in the choice, "the still small voice" of federalism will not be heard. We cannot view the contest with indifference; and though we can have no influence in the affair, yet we shall, when the candidates are known, speak our sentiments with candor and freedom.

A Hint for Clintonians.

If the faction who intend to support Governor Clinton for president, will take the trouble to hunt up Jefferson's answer to the New-Haven merchants, they will unquestionably find something there about age and infirmities, not altogether consistent with his late suggestions in his circular answer to the different legislatures, declining a re-election. Mr. Jefferson has been guilty of a piece of great indelicacy, in virtually nominating his successor, by pronouncing gov. Clinton unfit.—The old gentleman may yet prove "the ornament of human nature."

The Embargo.

On this interesting—this ruinous measure, we shall collect all the information within our reach. If this does not prove altogether satisfactory, it shall not be our fault. Our government carefully conceals from the people, every important fact on which its measures are founded, as will appear by the detail which follows. Since we are to go to war, it would be a consolation to know on what principles—what grounds. But even this consolation is denied us. When this country engaged in the revolutionary contest with Great Britain, every man knew for what he fought. The Declaration of Independence formed the basis of the controversy. Every man, therefore, fought well. Every thing was at stake.—Now, it is more than suspected, we are to go to war to cover the folly of an administration that has refused to furnish an adequate protection for our commerce.

Amongst the documents accompanying the president's secret message, was an extract of a letter from the grand judge, minister of justice, to the Imperial attorney-general for the council of prizes, at Paris, containing Bonaparte's answer to the question, whether English property on board of neutral vessels, and even merchandize proceeding from the English manufactures or territory were subject to seizure and condemnation, under the decree of Nov. 21st, 1806. The answer is, that "as his majesty did not think proper to express any exception in his decree, there is no ground for making any in its execution in relation to any whomsoever." The emperor postponed his decision on the question, whether armed French vessels ought to capture neutral vessels bound to or from England, *without* English merchandize on board.

But a most extraordinary, and we must say, a very suspicious circumstance is mentioned in the N. Y. E. Post:—

In the President's Message, before us, which we received from our correspondent at Washington by this morning's mail, and which was published, with other documents, in the form of a pamphlet, the following very important paragraph of the original message is suppressed.

"I ask a return of the letters of Messrs. Armstrong and Champagny, which it would be improper to make public."

And is this a time, or an occasion (says the Post) in which facts and motives are to be studiously concealed from the community?—What is in those letters from France that we must not see them, and what is their date? Do they demand us to shut our ports against England, and is it in consequence of such demand, that the representatives of a country, which talks of its independence, have submissively, basely complied and laid the present *embargo*?——Or do they contain demands of more money?——Or propositions of an alliance in the war against England! It is stated to us by the Executive that these very letters form at least part of the basis on which the most important measure has been by him recommended, and by Congress adopted, and yet they are not of a nature proper for the public eye. Why? we ask again. Did they not contain propositions that it would be dishonorable in us to listen to, and base to acquiesce in, but which we have both listened to and acquiesced in, where is the motive for concealing them? We trust that these suggestions, which we feel it a duty to make, will not be deemed unfair or uncandid. Make us once sensible that the Administration have acted or mean to act an honorable and independent part, and it shall find us among the most ready and zealous, if not the most able of its supporters, in any controversy with any nation. *Tros, Rutilusve nullo discrimine habebo.*

The Washington Federalist says that the embargo bill, when received from the senate, contained only the first section—the second was an amendment of the house of representatives—that a motion was made by a member in the minority, to amend the bill, by giving it a limited duration, and confining the embargo solely to American vessels—that another motion was made, to exempt from the effect of the embargo, the vessels of all nations, who by treaty had stipulated with the U. S. that they should not be subject to such a provision—that many attempts were made by the minority to adjourn, to give time for deliberation; but every motion was negatived—and that the advocates for an adjournment, were answered only by an obstinate and contemptuous silence, or a rude and vociferous call for the question.

It is stated in the Evening Post, that all the federalists in the house voted against the bill—that the majority said little in its favor, relying on their numbers for victory; and that the principal speakers in opposition were Messrs. Key, Randolph, Dana, Gardenier, Rowan, Livermore, Elliot and Masters.

Since the secret proceedings in Congress, war is spoken of by the members as unavoidable; but whether with England or France, is uncertain.

Where is our Independence?

Bonaparte demands the exclusion of British vessels from our ports. An embargo is laid, and answers the purpose. Thus is this demand complied with.

The emperor also declares that we shall accept no minister from Great Britain. Our government, of course, throws insuperable obstacles in the way of receiving Mr. Rose.—Thus do we comply with one demand after another, and thus are we running into the vortex of French ambition.

Jacobinism.

The Boston Chronicle recommends sending out of the country, all such as are opposed to the measures of the present administration.—Let the judiciary become dependent on the executive and the legislature, and this plan might easily be carried into effect.

It is supposed that our administration calculate on a tame submission by the people of this state to the measures of blocking up the harbor of New-York, since commerce is ruined by the embargo.

A word to Farmers.

A writer in Mr. Jefferson's official paper, the National Intelligencer, in defending the embargo measure, says,

"For a time it will materially reduce the price of our produce, and enhance that of many foreign commodities. The latter circumstance will operate as some indemnity to our merchants for the suspension of their business; the former will, in a considerable degree, affect the interests of the farmer and planter. Fortunately, in this country it is the latter class of citizens, who, from their numbers as well as their wealth, are the most able to bear a pressure."

The British offer to settle the affair of the Chesapeake separately, and refuse to blend any other subject with it. Our government will not receive a minister on this ground—war is therefore certain.

A Norfolk paper states, that the French frigate Patriot carried off two seamen belonging to the service of the U. States who had deserted and went on board that ship, with the perfect knowledge of the French officer. These men were Frenchmen; but they had become citizens of the U. S. and had enlisted in their service.

Quere—had these men a right to expatriate themselves? If so, the French officer has grossly insulted us, by taking them away.—If not, on what grounds do we quarrel with England?

In answer to this, our French tories will say, that the cause of the two countries is precisely the same; and, if we are correctly informed, Mr. Jefferson has said, "France must find ships, and we will man them!"

Witchcraft.

We have the most convincing proof that the editor of the Albany Register is in some way connected with his neighbor, the *Old Witch*, and that he obtains half his knowledge from her.—Reader, will you believe it? we had but just penned the paragraph on the foregoing page, headed "a hint to Clintonians," when we received the Register of Tuesday last, and on opening it, found by the first article, that the editor had improved (by anticipation) that very hint.—This is a fact; and you may draw your own conclusions from it.

We rejoice to see that the Clintonian tool (the Register) has ventured to attack Mr. Jefferson with due spirit. The cause is desperate; and requires desperate means.—The Register says, ironically, "It would be altogether inconsistent with Mr. Jefferson's wonted dignity of character to attack Mr. Clinton thus insidiously." And then it proceeds in a serious strain, "though age may have rendered Jefferson less competent than formerly to discharge his public duties, this is no reason why the same cause should produce the same effect upon Clinton. Age operates differently upon different constitutions—some men decline at fifty, others not till sixty, and many have been known to retain their mental vigour unimpaired far beyond the grand climacteric. Mr. Jefferson himself, in answer to the New-Haven remonstrants upon the appointment of old Mr. Bishop, very justly remarks, that Franklin, at the age of *eighty*, was the ornament of human nature—and this remark of Mr. Jefferson is of itself sufficient to rebut the absurd deduction." &c.

Gun-Boats.

In a debate in the H. R. on the gun-boat bill, Mr. Quincey, after enumerating many disadvantages in that mode of defence, said,

"But another and most important objection to them was, that they were abhorred by seamen, who regarded them with utter contempt. Men accustomed to sufficient shiproom, could not brook being cooped up, like poultry, for a sacrifice; with scarcely room enough to turn or to stretch themselves. A very respectable and eminent merchant in New-York had assured him, that it was impossible to get seamen to supply the present number of gun-boats in that harbor. That they were disgusted with the little accommodation they afforded. That in case of storm or exposure they were the most comfortless places imaginable, giving their seamen no place of retreat, but a wretched hold, into which they must creep, where they could not straighten themselves, but must get like dogs upon their haunches.

"On water the chief reliance must always be on those accustomed to that element. If these are dissatisfied, they soon communicate their discontent to the landsmen, and militia serving on board. Indeed how is it possible that these will not detest a service, at which the hardy sons of the sea repine? Besides so many men, as must be employed, stowed together in such a small space as the decks of these gun-boats offer, are sure marks for musquetry, and whenever they can be got within reach of small arms, their danger and exposure is extreme. I know there is an answer to this----"it is a part of the skill of these boats (it is said) to keep at a distance, and out of the reach of the enemy's fire, by retiring as he advances." This BRAVE SCHEME forms one capital objection to the whole system, considered as a general and principal portion of our defence. Its tendency is to make men cowards. It teaches them to look for safety, not in meeting the enemy, but in RUNNING AWAY. The principle of every other military system, of which I have ever heard, is to make men fearless of danger---ardent to meet the enemy---to lose the sense of personal hazard in the zeal of conflict, if I may use the expression---to close in with death, and by dauntlessness, frown him out of his terrors. In no other way can the natural fears of man be surmounted. But this scheme of seeking safety in flight is of all others the most direct means to encourage cowardice. It was not therefore without some regret that he heard his honorable colleague (Mr. Crowninshield) dwell with such an apparent satisfaction on the great advantage, which these boats gave, of getting out of harm's way, and annoying the enemy from shallows, and concealed behind points of land; retreating as the enemy advanced. He began to fear least it might be thought, that this was their way of fighting in the northern states, and that such were the calculations their warriors would make when the enemy should come. But, sir, THE SOIL IN WHICH PREBLES SPRING, yields not men, who will seek safety in flight, or who will HIDE THEMSELVES when danger approaches. No, sir. They will meet the enemy at the harbor's mouth. Their bodies will be their country's bulwarks. They will engage at close quarters, and if you will not give them decks of your own to fight upon, they will find means to fight, on those of the enemy."

Mr. Elliot, of Vermont, (who was formerly a warm supporter of the present administration) in a very able speech against the gun-boat bill, said,

"Upon the whole, this was but a new edition of the proclamation and gun-boat system, which had already sunk the republic to a low point of degradation and disgrace."

In speaking of his intention, to retire from public life, Mr. Elliot said,

"He had entered it with a determination never to be, for a single moment, a waiter in the anti-chamber of the presidential palace."

But the following passage in the same speech, will be peculiarly pleasing to the people of the north:

"An honorable gentleman from N. Carolina, yesterday, in speaking of the northern section of the union, had called it, "*that honorable part of the union, the north.*" He knew not exactly what the gentleman meant by this expression, but he considered the people of the north as an honorable people—not more so than those of the south, but as much so as any God ever made. He considered them as a high minded people.---Zealous for their country's rights, and behind none in the hour of battle."

The following has been presented us as a

New-Year's Gift.

Hail! infant year, which threatens dreadful war,
And Democratic-Venus mounts her car,
While Federal Pallas, with disdainful mein,
Frowns on the soft, deceitful demo-queen;
Who rages, blusters, swaggers, to no end:
Deluding all, yet to no one a friend;
Who sighs—who sobs—with tender female spite—
Speaks like a monster---yes, a monstrous mite:
A little nothing---yet a restless thing---
A little wrangling Bee, without a sting.

S——n.

To Correspondents.

Two poetical favors are received, and shall meet due attention.

A certain epitaph deferred until our next.

We regret that "OBSERVATOR" was received too late for this paper.

JOURNAL OF THE TIMES.

Be it our weekly task,
To note the passing tidings of the times.

On the 27th ult. an unanimous vote was passed in Hudson Lodge, No. 13, for wearing mourning for one month, as a testimony of respect for the memory of Capt. JOSEPH BRANDT.

A court martial was to have convened yesterday for the trial of the following late officers of the Chesapeake:—

Com. James Barron,
Capt. Charles Gordon,
William Hook, Gunner, and
John Hall, Capt. of Marines.

Mr. Monroe's arrival at the city of Washington, is announced in the papers.

The secret proceedings in Congress on the embargo-bill are published, the injunction of secrecy having been taken off. It is mentioned in the E. Post, that Mr. Gardenier, in the course of the debate, delivered one of the severest speeches ever pronounced in Congress against the present executive.

It has been reported in Boston, that a fire had accidentally broke out in the east end of St. Croix, and consumed a great number of buildings.

It is said the British squadron left the Chesapeake, in consequence of recent instructions from England, it having been signified that their remaining here was highly offensive to this government.

The report of an attempt to revolutionize Spain, by the Prince of Asturias, is confirmed by the decree of his Catholic Majesty, from which the following is an extract:—"My life, which has been so often in danger, had become a burden to my successor, who, prepossessed, blind and devoid of every principle of religion which my paternal care and love had impressed upon his mind, had consulted, and even admitted a plan to dethrone me. I, myself, enquired into and investigated the veracity of this attempt, and surprised him in my own apartment, in possession of the cypher of intelligence which he received from traitors. I called together my president, ad interim, of the council, together with other ministers, to undertake the discovery. All was done in due form, and the result was, that I decreed the confinement of several criminals, and also that of my son, to his own apartment; this was an additional grief to the many that already afflicted me---truly as it is the most heinous, so, likewise, is it the most necessary to punish."

The following is given in the Boston Gazette, as an extract of a letter from one of the owners of the Roby, with assurances of its entire correctness:—

Misfortune Increased by French Barbarity.

The schr. Roby, Alexander Murray, sailed from Charleston on the 17th Sept. for Trinidad, Isle Cuba. On the 1st of Oct. having been deceived by currents, we were stranded on the north point of Inagua, one of the Bahama Islands. It was about 1 o'clock at night, and very dark: the sea running high, she soon bilged. We had little idea of saving our lives, but fortunately she was drove up in such a manner upon the rocks, that we saved the major part of our cargo, which took up five days. We could find no inhabitants there, and the only thing we were likely to suffer for was water, having only saved a part of a cask from the wreck; but had plenty of every kind of provisions. In this situation, you may easily judge our feelings, at the dismal prospect which presented to us. The beach covered with goods of various descriptions; hogsheads, barrels, boxes, and crates, all heaped up in confused conjunction. A little beyond, a hard hearted iron bound shore, lashed by the surf, roaring like thunder, at intervals rising mountains high; beyond that again was the unfortunate Roby, reclining on her bilge, and obstinately sustaining the rude shocks which constantly assailed her.

On the 6th of Oct. Mr. Douglass and myself, with one of our crew, departed in our boat for Baracoa, Isle Cuba, being a distance of 150 miles. We took with us property to the amount of 1700 dollars, in order to purchase some vessel to return for the remainder of the crew and cargo. After we had got a little distance from the shore, we found the boat leaked in such a manner as to require one of us to bail the whole time; but notwithstanding we still proceeded on having head winds, squally weather and heavy rains. We was out 6 days before we made the island, when we espied a vessel to windward running down, being out of water, and expecting her to be an American vessel out of which we might be supplied, we rowed towards her, but soon found her to be a French privateer. When along side, we related our misfortunes to the captain and begged he would give us water to last us till we arrived at Baracoa. But instead of paying the least attention to our wants, he employed himself in examining our trunks. After an examination, which took up two hours and a half, and he *steering from the island*, took all the goods we had in the boat, nearly all our clothes, and then ordering us in the boat; we entreated him to give us up the property, but all to no purpose. Finding we could not get it, we asked him for enough to pay our expences in Barracoa, representing to him that it was a place where we knew no one, but to no avail. The *piratical villain* turned from us and ordered us in the boat, in this situation we departed from the vessel, without any thing to eat or drink; and was 3 days before we arrived in Barracoa. Well might I exclaim with FAULKNER:

"That while I measured o'er the painful race,
"In fortune's wild illimitable chase;
"Adversity, companion of my way,
"Still o'er his victim hung with iron sway;
"Bade new distresses every instant grow,
"Marking each change of place, with change of woe."

On our arrival we related our misfortunes to the governor, and through his influence got a vessel, went up and brought down the remainder of the cargo and crew.

Isle of Cuba, Barracoa, Nov. 7, 1807.

A report was current at Petersburg, Virg. on the 23d ult. that the STATIRA frigate, on board of which was Mr. Rose, had been captured off the capes by the French line of battle ship PATRIOT, which sailed from Hampton Roads a few days ago.—*D. Adv.*

The following is a correct list of the Shipping at present in the port of Philadelphia, from an actual enumeration:—

Ships	- - -	59
Brigs	- - -	43
Schooners	- -	44
Topsail Sloops	-	10
		—155

The above list does not include those vessels (between 20 and 30 sail) which had cleared out previous to the Embargo, and have since been detained in the river.—*ib.*

Extract of a letter from a respectable correspondent in London, dated Nov. 10th, 1807.

"Cuba, Martinique and Guadaloupe, will be, it is believed, declared in a state of blockade in a few days. We also expect to see further restrictions on neutral trade to the Continent."—*E. P.*

The following is the only important article received by the last mail:—

An extraordinary occurrence.—The public are desired to bear in mind that after the Embargo Act had received the President's signature, a motion was made "*that the secret journal relative to that subject be published,*" which was carried. Accordingly a sheet in octavo of 16 pages has been issued from the press, entitled "*A SUPPLEMENTAL JOURNAL, of such proceedings of the first session of the tenth Congress, as, during the time they were depending, were ordered to be kept secret, and respecting which the injunction of secrecy was afterwards taken off by order of the House.*"

Will it be believed that they have had the unparalleled audacity to suppress entirely the most important and interesting fact that took place during the secret proceedings? Will the people believe that a mutilated document has been sent out to them as a faithful transcript? In private transactions, to suppress a part of the truth, so as to vary the impression intended to be made, is as guilty a falsehood as a direct violation of it: and to alter the purport of any written instrument, by obliteration, is nothing less than a *forgery*. When public documents are suppressed or obliterated, it is *a fraud committed against the nation*. With these remarks we now ask the reader to peruse what follows: *F. Post.*

Extract of a letter from Washington, dated December 28, 1807.

DEAR SIR,

"I enclose you the Resolution adopted this morning in the House of Representatives. You will discover from this how little information the executive designed to communicate to us, and how little the house required to induce them to pass the important act, for laying an Embago. The object of the resolution was to ascertain whether the French government had demanded that we should interdict all commerce with England. There was a suspicion that the Embargo was but another name for non-intercourse, and if this measure was recommended in consequence of a demand from Bonaparte, it was evident we would, by laying the embargo, not only be in danger of compromitting our neutrality, but yielding our character of Independence, by acceding to the requisition of the French government. As the President had not communicated the requisite information on this head, and as the House were not disposed to call for it—adding to all this that the measure was recommended not in consequence of any new information from Great Britain, but in consequence of Dispatches from France, the minority were left to find their way in the dark, as well as they could; therefore as well from these considerations as from the great distress the measure would produce, resisted it, to the utmost of their power; but unfortunately for the prosperity, and perhaps the Independence of the country, their efforts were unavailing."

In the House of Representatives December 28th, 1807.

On motion of Mr. Gardenier, resolved that the Supplementary Journal of the proceedings of this house, be amended by inserting in the fourth page, the following after

Monday, December 21, 1807.

"A motion was made by Mr. Gardenier and seconded, that the house do come to the following resolution:

"*Resolved that the President of the United States be requested to lay before this house, copies of all such communications, letters and papers, as may have been received from the American Minister at Paris, in relation to the Imperial Decree of the 21st of November, 1806, and particularly such communications or letters as he may have received from our said minister, at the time of receiving the papers which were laid before the house on Friday last.*

And the Speaker having put the question whether the house would consider the said Resolution, it was decided in the negative."

THE KNOT.

Married, at Catskill, JAMES POWERS, Esq. Attorney at Law, to Miss NANCY DAY, daughter of Stephen Day, Esq.

WREATH.

ADDRESS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

HAD I the scourge of Satire at command,
To lash unpunish'd rascals round the land,
With such good will the galling blows should fall
Amongst the great offenders and the small,
That, ere another year, 'twould spoil their pranks,
And scatter terror through their ragged ranks.

Oh ! had I pow'rs to equal my desire—
Had I a pencil dipp'd in liquid fire—
In glowing colours would I deep engrave
On the bold front of each unblushing knave
His name, his character, his crying crimes,
And hang him up, to cure these evil times.

Or could I even boast the humble skill
To wield, with touching force, my "grey goose-quill,"
Could I but paint, in common black and white,
A field of shade, with scarce a speck of light—
And thus describe the desp'rate factious band
Who rule and ruin this devoted land,
Straight to the task would I with zeal apply,
Nor quit it till I'd drain'd my ink-stand dry.

First would I seek that vast Olympian height,
Where our tame Jupiter displays his might ;
Where he, his paper thunderbolts displays ;
And, by the dint of words, a nation sways ;
Where no proud eagle claims his godship's love,
But a dull buzzard seems the bird of Jove.
Him would I sing, who wields our empire's rod—
A proclamation prince—a gun-boat god.
First would I bind around his valiant brow
That deathless laurel, e'er withheld till now ;
For e'en M'Gruder, in his monstrous flight,
Nor Joel Barlow, bard of wond'rous might,
Have e'er recounted half our hero's scars,
Nor told his *aoings* in the field of Mars.
Then would dwell, in more enraptur'd strain,
On his sweet intercourse with good old Paine ;
Tell how he's profited by Tom's good rules,
And spurn'd the musty maxims of the ancient schools—
How faithful to his word—how chaste and pure—
How constant in his prayers—and how demure.
Then would I trace him to the chair of state,
Where all his greatness still appears more great—
Tell how he sits—a lilliputian king,
Towing his clam-boat navy with a string—
Strew'd at his feet a thousand whirligigs—
Gnats, flies, and squirrel-skins, and prairie pigs—
A horned frog, in Louis'ana kill'd—
A young dry-dock, with baby frigates fill'd—
Here a torpedo, torpid as a stone,
And there a harmless thing, an old air-gun.
How he sits brooding o'er his country's wrongs,
Culling the people with his proclamation songs ;
Bending to Bonaparte the supple knee,
Vowing, without a ship to rule the sea,
Leaving the country, fearful of expence,
Naked, without protection or defence
Boasting his millions in the treas'ry chest,
Careless how much the nation is oppress,
If he, to gratify an ancient grudge,
Can hang poor Burr, or else impeach his judge.

From thence would I pursue a downward course—
Descend from grade to grade—from bad to worse—
Search all the ranks of demos through and through,
And one by one, their vices hold to view ;
E'en to the filthy den where Tom Paine *lies*,
And utters scandal 'gainst the good and wise ;
Nay, low'r, low'r, low'r, down to the driv'lling Drone ;
And him, poor crawling insect, would I—let alone !

But praise falls sweetest from my feeble tongue,
Mildness befits a bard so very young—
So I must mix, my powers are so small,
" A drop of honey with a draught of gall."

First, then, to praise where praise is justly due,
I turn, my gen'rous customers, to you—
To you, *some time*, I'll tune the grateful lay—
Tho' not, perhaps, until next New-Year's day.

ORIGINAL MISCELLANY.

For the Balance.

THOUGHTS.

THE ministers of the gospel of Christ are bound to inculcate the duties which men owe to each other as members of civil society. The religion of which they are teachers, extends to all the relations which mankind sustain, public as well as private.

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Some men of genius have been known to be great eaters.

—

Though great decision of character is not altogether incompatible with tenderness, yet they are rarely united.

—

Among the trivial things in which men place their religion, some are known to lay great stress on wearing long beards.

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The Bible and Common Prayer Book serve more than any thing else to ascertain the English language.

For the Balance.

In a new and very interesting work, entitled, " A Picture of the Empire of Bonaparte, or the Belgian Traveller," the following important fact is related, on the authority of a Rabbin, who was in high estimation with Bonaparte, and in possession of many of the secrets of the French government :—

" In all the northern courts, particularly in those of Prussia, Sweden and Denmark, our (the French) government has its emissaries, who intrigue with the discontented, encourage the factious, and excite the hopes of cupidity. France is by all considered as the focus of anarchy, and the rallying point of revolutionists. With this truth Bonaparte is unfortunately too well acquainted, and therefore acts, intrigues and governs accordingly. But Europe is not the only part of the world threatened with a general overthrow. If I can believe the Rabbin, had not the present contest between France and England taken place, Asia, Africa and America would already have been in flames. Combustibles were collected, the mine loaded, and the matches lighted, when the differences between the cabinets of St. Cloud and St. James prevented an explosion, which is deferred but not relinquished. Political incendiaries are still busy in China as well as in Egypt, in the vicinity of Constantinople as well as on the frontiers of Mexico."

For the Balance.

Parental Duty.

FROM our parents are received those first impressions that form the mind, and influence the conduct. In the early days of childhood, are often formed, those habits that extend through life. At this season, we are generally under the guidance and direction of parents ; in whose hands is placed the power of influencing, in a great degree, to the pursuit of virtue or vice, by their own example and precept. It is in families the first seeds of virtue are sown, that, properly nurtured, spring up to grateful fruit, and afford comfort in manhood and old age. In these domestic circles also, are first imbibed those inclinations to vice, that prove the bane of happiness, and the pest of society ; or, if such be the discipline at home, that no vicious practises are there tolerated, an indulgence, that affords to the ardor of inexperience, opportunities of pursuing them elsewhere, produces a similar effect upon the offspring, while it throws the same blame upon the parent. By nature all are inclined to pursue sinful courses. Youth is the proper season to eradicate these natural propensities, and implant others in their room, that shall operate more to the honor of God and the good of man. If, therefore, youth are left to their own guidance, or are suffered to behold improper examples in those whom the order of nature has placed over and around them, they seldom fail of being corrupt and of falling a prey to vice. The infant mind, just expanding, and gradually unfolding its powers, being as yet unable to discern the superiority of wisdom over folly, receives implicitly from others and yields to their experience under the fullest persuasion of its correctness. While in this tender state, it is readily impressed by whatever objects surround it. As soft wax in the moulding hand of the artist readily receives the form he wishes to impart, so the youth just coming forward into life, yielding to the precedence of example, obtains beneath its pressure an according aspect. In one, the impression is easily eradicated ; in the other, it is found difficult to suppiant ; confirmed by habit, and strengthening with age, the influence is in a greater or less degree extended through life. A man's opinions are biased according to first impressions ; his prejudices founded on education ; and his principles often formed from influence received in childhood. These opinions, prejudices, and principles, determine his character with others ; his happiness in the world ; and his final situation and happiness in a future state. How awful is the situation of parents ! How responsible the condition of those who are entrusted with the education of youth ! In their hands a most valuable charge is placed ; the happiness of immortal souls ! The well being not only of the individuals immediately under their care ; but also, in a measure of all those to be in future reared and influenced by those individuals, extending in a lengthening chain to inconcievable duration !

OSANDER.

TERMS.

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